THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) On this alignment, double broad gauge line already exists between Surat-Udhna and Jalgaon-Bhusawal sections. A survey report for doubling of Udhna-Jalgaon section is under finalisation.

(c) Does not arise as it is not sanctioned work.

Acute shortage of water at gurgaon Railway Station

3163. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the last four years there is acute scarcity/ shortage of water at Gurgaon railway station apart from frequent failure of computerized ticketing system; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to post additional manpower to cope with the shortage of water and frequent failure of computerized ticketing system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Gauge Conversion in Tamil Nadu

3164. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are stages of progress of gauge conversion of Trichy-Manamadurai line and Madurai-Rameshwaram line in Tamil Nadu and the likely date of completion of both the lines; and

(b) by when the Karaikudi-Thiruvarur metre gauge line will be taken up for broad gauge conversion and what would be the total cost involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) On Madurai-Rameshwaram gauge conversion project, Madurai-Manamadurai section has already been commissioned and work on Manamadurai-Mandapam is targeted for completion during 2006-07.

On Tiruchchirappalli-Manamadurai gauge conversion project, work on Tiruchchirappalli-Karaikudi section is targeted for completion during 2006-07.

(b) Survey for gauge conversion of Mayiladuturai-Thiruvarur-Tiruturaipundi-Karaikudi and Tiruturaipundi-Agastiyampali metre gauge line has already been completed as per which cost of conversion of these lines has been worked out as Rs. 404.19 crore. Further decision on the proposal would be taken once the results of the survey are finalised.

Doubling of railway line

3165. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for doubling of railway line between Pullampeta and Rayalacherva and Chennai and Mumbai route;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(c) if not, whether there is any likelihood of taking it up in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mumbai-Chennai is one of the Golden Quadrilateral routes and is proposed to be doubled. On this route, doubling already exists on certain sections. The doubling of following sections have already been taken up:—

(i) Mahol-Pakni-Solapur

(ii) Raichur-Guntakal balance section.

(iii) Gooty-Renigunta balance section.

Further, the doubling of remaining length on Bhigwan-Gulbarga is not yet sanctioned. All these works have been entrusted to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited. (RVNL) for implementation.

(c) Does not arise.

Improving the Disaster Management

3166. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is contemplating to improve the disaster management in view of the recent serial bomb blasts in trains in Mumbai; and